

Virginia Natural Heritage Program 30th Anniversary Open House and Fall Foliage Hike At Bald Knob Natural Area Preserve Sunday, October 23, 2016 at 1PM

Celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Virginia Natural Heritage Program by joining DCR Natural Heritage Program staff for a hike at Bald Knob Natural Area Preserve in Franklin County, Virginia. The guided hike will take place from 1PM – 4PM on Sunday, October 23rd. Named for a large knob of mafic rock overlooking the town of Rocky Mount, this 79-acre preserve is the newest addition to Virginia's system of 63 Natural Area Preserves. This preserve protects the world's largest Piedmont mafic barren community.

Program Itinerary: This hike is entirely off trail through steep and uneven terrain. We will be hiking from a mowed pasture area through fields, forests, and barrens for 1-2 miles up to the summit area and back. Hikers should bring water, a snack, binoculars, and sturdy footwear. The hike will be conducted rain or shine, so please dress accordingly.

Directions: There are no permanently developed public access features such as a parking area or trail head at Bald Knob Natural Area Preserve. These directions pertain exclusively to this special anniversary event. From South Main St. in Rocky Mount, VA head east on East Court Street for approximately 1.1 miles. The temporary parking area will be on your left in a mowed area of pasture.

Reservations: To make a reservation, call 804-786-7951. Email: ryan.klopf@dcr.virginia.gov



Piedmont mafic barren atop Bald Knob Natural Area Preserve.

Photo: Gary P. Fleming

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